

Kenyon College

Digital Kenyon: Research, Scholarship, and Creative Exchange

Charles Pettit McIlvaine Letters

Archives

10-1-1860

Letter to son

Charles Pettit McIlvaine

Follow this and additional works at: http://digital.kenyon.edu/mcilvaine_letters

Recommended Citation

McIlvaine, Charles Pettit, "Letter to son" (1860). *Charles Pettit McIlvaine Letters*. 40.
http://digital.kenyon.edu/mcilvaine_letters/40

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Archives at Digital Kenyon: Research, Scholarship, and Creative Exchange. It has been accepted for inclusion in Charles Pettit McIlvaine Letters by an authorized administrator of Digital Kenyon: Research, Scholarship, and Creative Exchange. For more information, please contact noltj@kenyon.edu.

Home Oct. 1, 1880

My dear Mr -

I embrace the first opportunity to give you an account of the visit of the Prince to us as well as Lord - You will see the newspaper account in the Commercial which I will send with this - On Saturday morning, I went to the Bunt House, where they had arrived at 2 A.M. to see the Duke of Devonshire for whom I had a letter delivered on his arrival saying I would wait on him, to make arrangements for the attendance of the party at Church next day - He came as soon as he was dropped to one of the visitors rooms of the hotel where the city committee, Mayor &c were waiting - All stood aside for our conference - in which I invited the Prince & suite to my house on their way to Mr Bowler where it had been already arranged that after a drive through the city & Clifton they should lunch - He immediately said, it should be so - that he would order the

eachman to drive to my house. He said he thought
they would get out about 3. P.M. - Charles had
come down from Gambier on purpose to see the Prince
not expecting more than to see him in church.
Though I had thought of his coming to my house,
I had not seriously supposed it would be. But
the promise given, I hastened home, while they
set out on their tour through the city - but all
began to getting ready - men to mowing the
grass in front of the house - Charles asked as
hard as he could - I then we thought we
had two hours yet - so they were entering our
gate - I had just time to change my coat -
when the whole cavalcade was at the door. The
first carriage was a four barreled one with four
containing the Prince, Lord Alfred, Duke of New
Castle & Earl of Cornwall - The next Major Gen
Bruce, & so on - four or five carriages - with
the Mayor & city corporation in which were
Judge Wren, Rufus King &c - Your poor Mother
was unwell & agitated & stayed up stairs, seeing all
at the windows - The Prince came first & I introduced
him to the chief gentlemen of his suite & then

& Emily & Anna - with whom all shook
hands - Charley being taken by surprise, did
not get in till the introduction was over -
& I did not see him - so that to my great
surprise, he was not introduced - They spent about
20 minutes in the parlour - the room quite
filled - After I had sufficiently conversed with
the Prince I left him for Stan & Emily - who
mightily enjoyed the occasion - Anna did not
get to converse with him - some of the other great
folk having occupied her conversation - The
Prince was very amiable & easy & affable in man-
ner - & made your sister feel quite at ease -
Of course they fell in love with him - Then
our hosts they went to Mr Bowler, expressing them-
selves delighted with & surprised at the beauty of
Clifton & the residences there - As we entered
the gate of Mr B's grounds - we were informed that
he had not got out from the city - I concluded
that as they had arrived so much sooner
than he had expected, I should have to do
all the honors of the house - I therefore lighted
I went first - The servant at the door said Mr

B. had not got home - What was to be done?
The Prince & the Duke were in the door & I was
just going to receive & apologise for Mr B's absence
when he came from within - just arrived -
At the toll gate Brought with him the party
had passed a half hour - Fortunately that they
stopped so long with us - Mr B. saw his horse
all the way - from thence - After all were
introduced, I had to take the chief of the
matter on myself - as Mr B. felt a little abe-
lief & had all his entertainment to think of -
After a while in the drawing room - the guests -
were very much admiring the house, & I think
rather amazed at its taste & style - I proposed to
the Prince a stroll on the grounds - The day
was very fine - so he & I went together &
the rest scattered when they would - He & I
were together - without any one else to interrupt
I should think altogether - a half hour - When
lunch time came, I took him in & set on
his left - the Duke next to me - The report was
very handsome - but Mrs. Cadogan's presence which
was a matter - We strolled around the grounds

after it was finished - they took carriages & returned to the City -

Sunday Morning - the best arrangements were made at 11th Wm. - The congregation proper with each of their friends, whom they brought to occupy with them, entered by the side door & through the basement at 1/2 past ten - On that the front door were kept closed till the party came - The Mayor had a police force in the street - When the party entered, the church was completely occupied except the benches in front - 3 each side of the middle aisle - no being ment, which had been reserved for the guests - There was greater order & quietness - I had directed that every thing should be exactly as usual - no appearance of recognition in the services or the mode of conducting them - of any speciality on the occasion - Dr Greenleaf read the prayer for Heatter the Epistle - Dr Brown the Epistle & the Anti-Communion & Gospel - To avoid all appearance of attempting a display, I directed more than usual simplicity in the singing - The 100th Ps. to Old Hundred was excellently sung

of the whole congregation - The only change in
the service was that I directed the words "the
Queen of Great Britain" to be inserted in
the Prayers for ^{the} President, immediately after
the President - & before "and all others in
authority" I preached on Rev. VII. 9 & 10 -
Once or twice before service & before they
reached the Prince nodded to your sisters -
I bid them all good bye in the Parly Room
through which they retired in order to avoid
the crowd. It was the first service they
had attended in the U.S. except that of
a little Presbⁿ church in the prairie where
they stopped to shoot the next day - & I am sure
they got a good impression of our Church -
for I never knew a congregation better
behaved - & the Church had just been nicely
fitted up again -

As he retired I bade me good bye - he said
he should hope to see me in Eng^l - so that
when I go next I shall just order my cab
to take me & my "plunder" to St. James or

Windsor Castle - (y - know) & call for
a moment -

I forgot to say that little Ellie is greatly put up
with what she will have to remember all
her life by - that the Prince took off his hat
to her - As the Carriage were passing Emma's
gate, she & Ellie were standing out in front
of the house - & the Prince bowed to them as
he passed. Now I must stop.

Your dear Father -